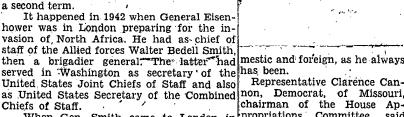
Today in National Affairs

Eisenhower Is Seen Putting Service Ahead of Health

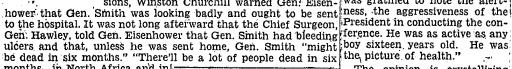
F By DAVID LAWRENCE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—What is Dwight Eisenhower's basic! attitude toward public service—is it the health and convenience of an individual or the needs of one's country which must be

This question was once answered by Mr. Eisenhower in an episode that various persons in Washington are talking about now because it may throw light on the processes of the President's mind when he comes to the point of making a decision next year on whether or not to serve a second term.



When Gen. Smith came to London in propriations October, 1942, he took on a series of heavy after a legislative conference at conferences daily and, after one of these sest the White House this week: "I sions, Winston Churchill warned Gen: Eisen- was gratified to note the alert-



months—in North Africa and in other places," was Gen. Eisenhower's reply as he turned down the suggestion. Gen. Smith, after two weeks of hospitalization, went on to serve as Ike's Chief of Staff for nearly four years until after the end of the war.-He later was for three years United States Ambassador to Russia and then became head of the C. I. A. and subsequently Undersecretary of State. He is now an executive in private

There was in this instance, moreover, an intimate friendship which might have induced greater personal concern about the risks involved, but Dwight Eisenhower's point of view has always been that the needs of the United States come first.

It is true that the incident occurred during wartime, but the way things shape up today inside the government—with the Navy and the Air Force constantly on a twenty-four-houralert basis—it is well known that the "cold war" is considered in some respects as dangerous as some stages of a "hot war." Certainly, in an International crisis, skillful leadership and experience are so essential that many close observers of Dwight Eisenhower's whole attitude toward him to serve on, a sense of duty he will persuade him to do so.

He's Even Sharper

attack hasn't affected his mental judgment of my party, and the capacity or acumen. Officials public as to whether I shall be a who have attended recent con-candidate for the Presidency ferences with him, both of the again in 1916. I absolutely pledge Cabinet and the National Secu- myself to resort to nothing but rity Council, say that he is even public opinion to decide that sharper than before in cutting question." through lengthy debate or point under discussion. They say Dwight Eisenhower should be rehe is as penetrating in his nominated. analysis of public questions, do-

Representative Clarence Canchairman of the House Ap-Committee.

The opinion is crystallizing that, in the event that the doctors give Ike advice saying he is physically able to continue in office if he so desires, the President will not seek to be a candidate but will tell the American people something to this effect: "I had no desire to come to public office in the first place. I think there are able men to be found to succeed me. But if the people want me to serve, I shall obey their wish and serve if elected."

History May Repeat

It was Woodrow Wilson who in a world crisis in 1916—before America entered World War Irefrained from "seeking" a second term in the Presidency. He stood by his statement made as President - elect in February 1913, when he wrote:

"I can approach the question from a perfectly impersonal point of view, because I shall President Eisenhower's heart most cheerfully abide by the

Maybe history will repeat itrambling remarks and bringing self, and the people themselves public service now are saying his conferees back to the main will have to decide whether that, if the country really wants point under discussion. They say Dwight Fisanbayer should be re-© 1955, New York